

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/036,275	TIERNEY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	KAREN C. TANG	2451	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/9/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 6, 11-17, 19-20, 24-30, 32-33, 36-39, 41-44, 46-52.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20090331</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

/Larry D Donaghue/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edmund J. Walsh on Reg No 32,950 following a discussion of the phrase "hardware means." The Examiner explained that "hardware means" indicates that the recited function is performed with hardware, but does not exclude the possibility that software executing on the hardware is involved in performance of the claimed function.

Claimed amendment filed on 01/09/2009 is entered.

Examiner's Amendment

The Application is amended as follows:

Specification

Amendment to the Paragraph 0047 in the specification as follow:

[0047] A software implementation of the above-described embodiment may comprise a series of computer instructions either fixed on a tangible medium, such as a computer readable storage media, for example, a diskette, a CD-ROM, a ROM memory, or a fixed disk, ~~or transmittable~~ The computer instructions may also be transmitted to a computer system, via a modem or other interface device over a transmittable medium. The transmittable medium either can be a tangible

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medium, including but not limited to optical or analog communications lines, or may be implemented with wireless techniques, including but not limited to microwave, infrared or other transmission techniques. It may also be the Internet. The series of computer instructions embodies all or part of the functionality previously described herein with respect to the invention. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that such computer instructions can be written in a number of programming languages for use with many computer architectures or operating systems. Further, such instructions may be stored using any memory technology, present or future, including, but not limited to, semiconductor, magnetic, optical or other memory devices, or transmitted using any communications technology, present or future, including but not limited to optical, infrared, microwave, or other transmission technologies. It is contemplated that such a computer program product may be distributed as a removable media with accompanying printed or electronic documentation, e.g., shrink wrapped software, pre-loaded with a computer system, e.g., on system ROM or fixed disk, or distributed from a server or electronic bulletin board over a network, e.g., the Internet or World Wide Web.

Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method for managing a peer-to-peer collaboration system, the method comprising:
 - (a) using client software operating in a first device and client software operating in a second device to connect a first user of the first device to a second user of the second device in a peer-to-peer collaboration session including the first user and second user, the first user having a first collaboration identity in a shared space and the second user having a second collaboration identity in the shared space;

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- (b) downloading from a management server to the client software operating in the first device a definition file containing a definition of a managed entity;
- (c) associating a management identity in the definition file with the first collaboration identity or first device information in the client software operating in the first device in order to create the managed entity, the management identity associated with the managed entity being different than the first collaboration identity, the management identity allowing the first user or the first device to be identified by the management server, wherein said associating comprises incorporating information from the definition file into another file stored on the first device, wherein the definition file is an operating system registry file, and the another file is a portion of a system registry on the first device;
- (d) interacting, between the management server and the client software operating in the first device using the management identity, to exchange management information associated with operation of the managed entity in the peer-to-peer collaboration session separately from collaborative information exchanged between the first user and the second user, wherein the management information exchanged comprises at least a policy restriction file, wherein said interacting further comprises steps:
 - i) creating a client list of policy restrictions in the client software operating in the first device of the managed entity;
 - ii) sending the client list of policy restrictions to the management server;
 - iii) creating a server list of policy restrictions in the management server;
 - iv) comparing the client list of policy restrictions to the server list of policy restrictions; and
 - v) adjusting and synchronizing the client list of policy restrictions in the client software operating in the first device based on the comparison on step iv);wherein the steps i) to v) are repeated; and
- (e) in response to information in the policy restriction file, restricting at least one function in the client software.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the managed entity is a managed user, the definition file is an injectible identity file, and the another file on the first device is a user account file.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the managed entity is a managed device and the definition file is a device information file.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the management information exchanged is a license file and said interacting comprises in response to information in the license file, enabling at least one function in the client software.
- 7-9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled).
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the management information comprises event notifications and statistical information and said interacting to exchange the management information comprises:
 - i) periodically sending the event notifications and the statistical information from the client software operating in the first device of the managed entity to the management server.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the event notifications include error notifications.

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13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the event notifications and the statistical information are temporarily stored in a memory located at a client site.

14. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising a computer adapted to operate within a managed peer-to-peer collaboration system, the computer being a first device and the managed peer-to-peer collaboration system comprising a second device, the apparatus comprising:

client software recorded on computer readable storage media in the first device, the software when operated, connecting a first user of the first device to a second user in a peer-to-peer collaboration session including the first and second users, the first user having a first collaboration identity in a shared space and the second user having a second collaboration identity in the shared space;

a download manager that downloads from a management server to the client software operating in the first device a definition file containing a definition of the identity of a managed entity, wherein the definition file is an operating system registry file;

a hardware mechanism in the client software that associates the definition with the first collaboration identity or first device information in order to create the managed entity, the management identity associated with the managed entity being different than the first collaboration identity, the management identity allowing the first user or the first device to be identified by the management server, wherein associating comprises incorporating the definition of the identity of the managed entity into another file stored on the first device, the another file being a portion of a system registry on the first device; and

a mechanism that exchanges management information relating to the managed entity between the client software operating in the first device and the management server using the management identity, the management information relating to monitoring operation of the managed entity and/or synchronizing the managed entity with information on the management server, the management information exchanged being associated with the identity of the managed entity, wherein:

the management information exchanged comprises at least a policy restriction file, wherein the policy restriction file comprises a list of policy restrictions in the client

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software operating in the first device or a list of policy restrictions in the management server;

the exchange of management information is repeated; and

the apparatus is adapted to, in response to information in the policy restriction file, restrict at least one function in the client software.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the managed entity is a managed user and the definition file is an injectible identity file.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the managed entity is a managed device and the definition file is a device information file.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the device information file is a Windows REG file.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the mechanism that exchanges information comprises:

policy control software in the management server that sends at least one policy restriction file from the management server to the managed user; and

policy control software in the client software that, in response to information in the policy restriction file, restricts at least one function in the client software.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the mechanism that exchanges information comprises:

management software in the management server that creates a client list of policy restrictions in the client software of the managed user;

a transport mechanism that sends the client list to the management server;

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management software in the client software that creates a server list of policy restrictions in the management server;

a mechanism that compares the client list to the server list; and

a mechanism that periodically adjusts and synchronizes the policy restrictions in the client software in cooperation with the comparison mechanism.

21.-22 (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the mechanism that exchanges information comprises:

customer service management software that periodically sends event notifications and statistical information from the client software of the managed user to the management server.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the event notifications include error notifications.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24 wherein event notifications and statistical information are temporarily stored in a memory located at a client site.

27. (Previously Presented) At least one computer readable storage medium encoded with instructions, that are executable in a computer system to perform a method managing a peer-to-peer collaboration system, comprising acts of:

connecting a first user to a second user in a peer-to-peer collaboration session including the first and second users, the first user having a first collaboration identity in a shared space and the second user having a second collaboration identity in the shared space;

downloading from a management server to client software operating in the computer system a definition file containing a definition of a managed entity;

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associating a management identity in the definition file with the first collaboration identity in the client software in order to create the managed entity, the management identity associated with the managed entity being different than the first collaboration identity, the management identity allowing the first user or the computer system to be identified by the management server, wherein associating comprises incorporating information from the definition file into another file stored on the computer system, wherein the definition file is an operating system registry file, and the another file is a portion of a system registry on the first device; and

interacting with the management server using the management identity to exchange management information relating to the managed entity within a collaboration session using the shared space, wherein the management information exchanged comprises at least a policy restriction file, and the interacting further comprises:

in response to information in the policy restriction file, restricting at least one function in the client software, wherein said interacting further comprises steps:

- i) creating a client list of policy restrictions in the client software operating in the computer system of the managed entity;
 - ii) sending the client list of policy restrictions to the management server;
 - iii) creating a server list of policy restrictions in the management server;
 - iv) comparing the client list of policy restrictions to the server list of policy restrictions; and
 - v) adjusting and synchronizing the client list of policy restrictions in the client software operating on the computer system based on the comparison on step iv);
- wherein the steps i) to v) are repeated.

28. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27 wherein the managed entity is a managed user and the definition file is an injectible identity file.

29. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27 wherein the managed entity is a managed device and the definition file is a device information file.

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30. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 29 wherein the device information file is a Windows REG file.

31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein the program code for interacting comprises:

- sending at least one policy restriction file from the management server to the managed user; and

- responding to information in the policy restriction file for restricting at least one function in the client software.

33. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein the program code for interacting comprises:

- creating a client list of policy restrictions in the client software of the managed user;

- sending the client list to the management server;

- creating a server list of policy restrictions in the management server;

- comparing the client list to the server list; and

- cooperating with the comparing program code for adjusting and synchronizing the policy restrictions in the client software.

34.-35. (Canceled).

36. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 33 wherein the program code for adjusting and synchronizing the policy restrictions operates periodically.

37. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein the program code for interacting comprises:

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periodically sending event notifications and statistical information from the client software of the managed user to the management server.

38. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 37 wherein the event notifications include error notifications.

39. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 37 further comprising program code for temporarily storing event notifications and statistical information in a memory located at a client site.

40. (Canceled).

41. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising a computer adapted to operate within a managed peer-to-peer collaboration system in which users having identities are directly connected to each other in a collaboration session using a shared space by client software operating in devices and wherein the users can communicate with a management server using the client software, the apparatus comprising:

hardware means operable in devices for connecting a first user having a first collaboration identity in the shared space to a second user having a second collaboration identity in the shared space in a peer-to-peer collaboration session including the first and second users;

hardware means for downloading from a management server to the client software a definition file containing a definition of the identity of the managed entity;

hardware means in the client software for associating the identity of the managed entity with the first collaboration identity or first device information in the client software in order to create the managed entity, the management identity associated with the managed entity being different than the first collaboration identity, the management identity allowing the first user or the first device to be identified by the management server, wherein associating comprises incorporating the definition of the identity of the managed entity into another file on the first device, wherein the definition file is an operating system registry file, and the another file is a portion of a system registry on the first device;

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hardware means for exchanging management information associated with the managed entity using the management identity, the management information relating to the collaboration session, and the management information being exchanged between the client software operating in the first device and the management server, and the management information identifying an entity to which the information relates using the identity of the managed entity, wherein:

the management information exchanged comprises at least a policy restriction file, wherein the policy restriction file comprises a list of policy restrictions in the client software operating in the first device or a list of policy restrictions in the management server;

the exchange of management information is repeated; and

hardware means for restricting at least one function in the client software in response to information in the policy restriction file.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the managed entity is a managed user and the definition file is an injectible identity file.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41 wherein the managed entity is a managed device and the definition file is a device information file.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the device information file is a Windows REG file.

45. (Canceled).

46. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the hardware means for exchanging management information comprises:

hardware means for sending at least one policy restriction file from the management server to the managed user; and

hardware means responsive to information in the policy restriction file for restricting at least one function in the client software.

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47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:
the exchanged management information comprises a license file; and
the apparatus is adapted to, in response to information in the in the license file, enable at least one function in the client software.
48. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein:
the exchanged management information comprises a license file; and
the interacting further comprises in response to information in the in the license file, enabling at least one function in the client software.
49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein:
the exchanged management information comprises a license file; and
the apparatus further comprises means for enabling at least one function in the client software in response to information in the in the license file.
50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the another file is a user account file.
51. (Previously Presented) The at least one computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the another file is a user account file.
52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the another file is a user account file.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KAREN C. TANG whose telephone number is (571)272-3116. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7 - 3.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571)272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. C. T./

Examiner, Art Unit 2451

/Larry D Donaghue/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454